Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

- 1. (Original) A method for detecting PrP in a biological sample of human or animal origin that may contain said PrP, characterized in that it uses a molecule having at least one positive charge and/or at least one glycosidic bond and a ligand other than a protein ligand chosen from macrocyclic and glycosaminoglycan ligands.
- 2. (Original) The method for detecting PrP as claimed in claim 1, characterized in that said molecule having at least one positive charge and/or at least one glycosidic bond is added to said biological sample so as to precipitate the PrP, before the addition of the ligand other than a protein ligand.
- 3. (Currently Amended) The method for detecting PrP as claimed in either of claims 1 and 2, characterized in that it comprises the additional step of adding proteinase K to the sample.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The method for detecting PrP as claimed in <u>claim 1</u> any one of elaims 1 to 3, characterized in that it comprises the steps consisting in:
 - a) adding proteinase K to said sample so as to digest the PrP^c,
 - b) adding, to the mixture thus obtained, said molecule having at least one positive charge and/or at least one glycosidic bond so as to obtain PrP aggregates,
 - c) adding a ligand other than a protein ligand, and
 - d) revealing the presence of PrP^{res}.

- 5. (Currently Amended) The method for detecting PrP as claimed in claim 1 any one of claims 1 to 4, characterized in that it comprises at least one of the following additional steps i) and ii), consisting in:
 - i) separating the PrP aggregates from the reaction mixture, and
 - ii) denaturing the PrP aggregates, these steps being included, where appropriate, between step b) and step c).
- 6. (Currently Amended) The method for detecting PrP as claimed in claim 1 any one of claims 1 to 5, characterized in that a PrP-specific binding partner for an immunoreaction between the PrP-specific binding partner and the PrP is added, where appropriate in step d).
- 7. (Currently Amended) The method for detecting PrP as claimed in claim lany one of claims 1 to 6, characterized in that the ligand other than a protein ligand is bound to a solid support.
- 8. (Currently Amended) The method for detecting PrP as claimed in claim 1 any one of claims 1 to 7, characterized in that the molecule having at least one positive charge and/or at least one glycosidic bond is a molecule having at least two guanidinium and/or ammonium functions, preferably streptomycin, more preferably in the form of a salt.
- 9. (Currently Amended) The method for detecting PrP as claimed in claim 1 any one of claims 1 to 8, characterized in that the ligand other than a protein ligand is a macrocyclic ligand.
 - 10. (Original) The method for detecting PrP as claimed in claim 9, characterized in

that the macrocyclic ligand is chosen from metacyclophanes, preferably from calixarenes.

11. (Original) The method for detecting PrP as claimed in claim 10, characterized in that the macrocyclic ligand corresponds to general formula (I) below:

$$R_1$$
 R_2
 R_3
 R_4
 R_5
 R_6
 R_6
 R_7
 R_6
 R_7
 R_8
 R_8

in which

R₁ represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxyl group, an OR group or an OCOR group, R being as defined below,

R₂ represents a hydrogen atom or an R, COR, Pol or CH₂Pol group, in which Pol represents a phosphate, sulfate, amine, ammonium or carboxylic acid group, and R is as defined below,

R₃ represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxyl group, an OR group or an OCOR group in which R is as defined below,

R₄ represents a hydrogen atom, a hydroxyl group, an OR group, an OCH₂R group or an OCOR group, in which R is as defined below,

Y is a carbon, nitrogen or sulfur atom,

R₅ and R₆, each independently, are absent or represent a hydrogen atom, a CH₂ group or an R group as defined below, or else

R₅ and R₆ together represent an oxygen or sulfur atom,

X represents a CH₂ group, or an oxygen or sulfur atom,

m represents an integer equal to 0 or 1,

R represents a hydrogen atom or a saturated or unsaturated, branched or unbranched, cyclic or noncyclic hydrocarbon-based chain which may or may not be substituted with a halogen group, and which carries polar or nonpolar functions,

n is an integer between 3 and 15,

the substituents R₁ to R₅, R, X and Y and the integer m may be different in nature according to the units.

12. (Original) The method for detecting PrP as claimed in claim 11, characterized in that the macrocyclic ligand corresponds to general formula (Ia) below:

$$R_2$$
 R_2
 R_2

in which

n is an integer between 4 and 8,

each group R2, taken independently, is a sulfate group or a phosphate group,

 R_7 represents a $(CH_2)_t$ - $(CO)_s$ - (NH_2) group or a $(CH_2)_t$ -COOH group where t is an integer between 0 and 6 and s is an integer between 0 and 6.

- 13. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 12, characterized in that said ligand is a calixarene of formula (Ia) in which the two groups R₂ are each a sulfate group, n is 4, 6 or 8, and R₇ is a hydrogen atom, a -CH₂COOH group, a -CH₂CONH₂ group or a -CH₂CH₂NH₂ group.
 - 14. (Original) The method for detecting PrP as claimed in claim 10, characterized in

that the macrocyclic ligand corresponds to general formula (Ia) in which n = 6, X = Y =sulfate and R_7 is $-CH_2CH_2NH_2$.

- 15. (Original) A method for detecting PrP, in particular PrP^x, characterized in that it comprises the step consisting in bringing a biological sample, derived or obtained from an animal or human organism, into contact with a molecule having at least two guanidinium and/or ammonium functions, with the exception of the antibiotics.
- 16. (Original) A diagnostic kit for detecting PrP, characterized in that it comprises a ligand other than a protein ligand chosen from macrocyclic ligands and glycosaminoglycans, and a molecule having at least one positive charge and/or at least one glycosidic bond.
- 17. (Original) The diagnostic kit as claimed in claim 16, characterized in that said ligand other than a protein ligand is bound to a solid support.